The Honorable Ricardo S. Martinez 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 9 MICROSOFT CORPORATION, a 10 Washington corporation, NO. CV7-936RSM 11 Plaintiff. JOINT STATUS REPORT AND 12 **DISCOVERY PLAN** 13 IMMERSION CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation, 14 Defendant. 15 16 Pursuant to FRCP 26(f) and Local Rule CR 16, counsel for all parties 17 provide this Joint Status Report and Discovery Plan to the court: 18 Nature and Complexity of the Case 19 This is a breach of contract case. Microsoft's Statement 20 On February 11, 2002, Immersion filed a lawsuit against Microsoft and 21 Sony in the Northern District of California, alleging that the defendants violated 22 certain patents held by Immersion pertaining to forced feedback technology used 23 in computer games. As part of a settlement between Microsoft and Immersion in 24 that case, Immersion and Microsoft entered into a Sublicense Agreement, which 25 provided inter alia that "in the event Immersion elects in its discretion to settle the 26 Riddell Williams P.s JOINT STATUS REPORT (CV7-936RSM) 1 1001 FOURTH AVENUE PLAZA C:\Documents and Settings\pkundtz\Local Settings\Temporary Internet **SUITE 4500** SEATTLE, WA 98154-1192 Files\OLK30\Joint Status Report - USDC (5).doc (206) 624-3600 103107/1512

Sony Lawsuit . . ., Immersion would owe Microsoft certain sums. After Immersion obtained a verdict against Sony and while the case was on appeal before the Ninth Circuit, Immersion and Sony entered into an agreement, providing Sony with licenses for the Immersion technology, paying Immersion \$22.5 million, and permanently releasing an injunction entered in the Sony lawsuit. Sony paid the outstanding judgment of approximately \$92 million and stipulated to the dismissal of the appeal. Microsoft alleges that Immersion breached their Sublicense Agreement by (1) failing to make payments to Microsoft following Immersion's settlement with Sony; and (2) by violating the covenant of good faith and fair dealing by actively attempting to characterize its agreement with Sony as something other than a settlement. Immersion denies these allegations and also asserts a number of affirmative defenses.

# Immersion's Statement

Microsoft's statement of the case does not fairly characterize the terms of the Microsoft-Immersion Sublicense Agreement or the Immersion-Sony agreement, and as a result does not present an accurate summary of the nature of this case. The Microsoft-Immersion Sublicense Agreement provided *inter alia* that "in the event Immersion elects in its discretion to settle the Sony Lawsuit prior to Microsoft's granting Sony a Game Platform Sublicense," then Immersion would pay Microsoft an amount determined as set forth in the Sublicense Agreement. The Sublicense Agreement defines the "Sony Lawsuit" as "the action in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California entitled *Immersion Corporation v. Sony Computer Entertainment of America, Inc., Sony Computer Entertainment Inc., and Microsoft Corporation*, Northern District of California Case No. C02-00710 CW (WDB), as such action pertains to Sony."

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Sony satisfied in full. Microsoft alleges that, under the Sublicense Agreement, it is owed a share of the proceeds Immersion received from the satisfaction of the final judgment against Sony, along with a share of other court-ordered payments to Immersion. Immersion denies Microsoft's allegations and also asserts a number of affirmative defenses.

Immersion has filed a counterclaim against Microsoft for breaching a Nondisclosure Agreement between Immersion and Microsoft by publicly disclosing confidential information in an Agreement between Immersion and Sony. Microsoft denies the counterclaim.

#### 2. ADR Method

The parties prefer mediation before a mediator to be selected by agreement of the parties.

# 3. Mediation Scheduling

The parties are considering early mediation in this case. If early mediation does not occur or is not successful, the parties suggest that mediation be scheduled at some other appropriate time during the course of pre-trial proceedings.

#### 4. Additional Parties

Neither Plaintiff nor Defendant intends to add any additional parties.

#### 5. Proposed Discovery Plan

(a) Rule 26(f) conference and Rule 26(a) Initial Disclosures

The parties held an initial FRCP 26(f) conference on September 10, 2007. The parties exchanged their initial disclosures on October 25, 2007, pursuant to the Court's order of September 20, 2007.

# (b) Discovery Subjects

Discovery will focus on the nature, meaning and circumstances surrounding the Microsoft/Immersion Sublicense Agreement, Nondisclosure Agreement and other agreements, the Immersion/Sony Agreement, Microsoft's and Immersion's alleged damages, and Immersion's defenses and Counterclaim.

#### (c) Discovery Limitations

# Microsoft's Statement

Microsoft proposes the following change to the court rules regarding discovery: Each party may conduct one deposition that shall be limited to two days and seven hours per day. This is consistent with King County Local Rule 26(d)(2). Microsoft believes that this minor change is necessary because (1) one of Immersion's witnesses, its CEO, is a critical witness who was the leading negotiator in two sets of complex transactions at issue in this case, and he has knowledge on all issues in the case, which will require at least two days of deposition to cover, (2) the amount in controversy is substantial, more than \$27.5 million, and (3) Immersion and its counsel are experienced with commercial litigation and capable of responding to one two day deposition.

#### Immersion's Statement

Immersion proposes no changes to the court rules regarding discovery at this time. Immersion opposes Microsoft's proposal to conduct a two day, fourteen hour deposition of Immersion's CEO as contrary to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, premature and harassing. Microsoft's reliance on the Local Rules of the Superior Court for King County is misplaced. Naturally, the applicable rules of procedure are the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, including the presumptive durational limit for depositions set forth in Rule 30. Fed. R. Civ. P. 30(d)(2). Moreover, the person that Microsoft has requested to depose at double length is

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Immersion's CEO. Microsoft has not made the requisite showing of why fourteen hours of deposition time with Immersion's CEO "is needed for a fair examination of the deponent." *Id.* If, after conducting a seven-hour deposition, Microsoft believes in good faith that it needs additional time with the witness, Microsoft can at that point meet and confer and both the parties and the Court will be in a better position to determine what is appropriate under the circumstances. It is not, however, necessary at this time, in advance, to require the CEO of a public company to sit for up to fourteen hours of deposition time.

# (d) Managing discovery

The parties agree to manage discovery issues in order to minimize the necessary expense and time needed to complete discovery, including working to informally schedule depositions.

The parties have agreed to preserve all relevant materials, including electronically stored information ("ESI"). ESI will be produced in the following format: Data (beginning and ending bates number and body text) in delimited format with single page group TIFF images on CD-Rom, de-duplicated and without metadata intact. The parties preserve the option to later request metadata for particular documents, if such metadata is relevant and not privileged.

# (e) Protective Orders

This case involves sensitive trade secret and confidential business information. The parties will prepare and present for the Court's approval an agreed protective order.

#### 6. Completion of Discovery

Microsoft believes that discovery can be completed by March 1. Immersion believes that the completion of discovery will take at least until June 30, 2008.

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# 7. Referral to Magistrate Judge

The parties do not agree to referral of this matter to a magistrate judge.

## 8. Bifurcation

The parties do not see a need for bifurcation of the action.

## 9. Pretrial Order

The parties propose that the pretrial order require the listing of witnesses and exhibits that the parties expect to present at trial, but not include the requirement that all contentions of the parties be set forth in the pretrial order.

# 10. Other Suggestions

The parties have no other suggestions at this time for the disposition of the case.

## 11. Trial Date

Microsoft requests that trial be scheduled for June, 2008 because this case was filed in June of 2007 and one year is sufficient time to prepare this case for trial. Immersion believes that a trial date in January, 2009 is more realistic in light of the likely length of pre-trial proceedings and that the parties are in the early stages of exchanging documents and discovery.

# 12. Jury Trial

This matter will be tried to a jury.

#### 13. Length of Trial

The parties estimate that the trial will extend about 7-10 days.

# 14. Trial counsel

The plaintiff's lead trial counsel is expected to be Paul J. Kundtz of Riddell Williams P.S., Seattle, Washington. Defendant's lead trial counsel is expected to

1	be Morgan Chu of Irell & Manella LLP, Los Angeles, California and Bradley S.
2	Keller of Byrnes and Keller LLP, Seattle, Washington.
3	15. <u>Service of Process</u>
4	Service of process has been completed and is not challenged.
5	16. <u>Further Scheduling Conference</u>
6	The parties do not request a further scheduling conference at this time.
7	DATED this 3 kg day of October, 2007.
8	RIDDELL WILLIAMS P.S.
9	By Rall
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